CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A packaging cushion insert useful for cushioning a packaged object, the insert comprising:

a top sheet;

a bottom sheet; and

a plurality of interior sheets between the top and bottom sheets, wherein:

the top sheet, the bottom sheet, and the plurality of interior sheets are in stacked arrangement;

the top sheet is attached to a first sheet of the plurality of interior sheets;

the bottom sheet is attached a second sheet of the plurality of interior sheets; and

each of the plurality of interior sheets is attached to at least one other sheet of the plurality of interior sheets;

the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets each comprise one or more materials selected from air-cellular cushioning material, cellular foam material, and crumpled paper material.

2. The insert of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of interior sheets are directly attached to at least one other sheet of the plurality of interior sheets.

3. The insert of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of interior sheets are adhered by adhesive to at least one other sheet of the plurality of interior sheets.

4. The insert of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of interior sheets are adhered by heat seal to at least one other sheet of the plurality of interior sheets.

5. The insert of claim 1 wherein at least one of the top and bottom sheets defines an aperture to accommodate insertion of at least a portion of the packaged object within the aperture, whereby the insert surrounds at least a portion of the packaged object.

6. The insert of claim 1 wherein:

at least one of the top and bottom sheets defines a first aperture;

at least one of the plurality of interior sheets defines a second aperture; and

the first and second apertures are aligned to accommodate insertion of at least a portion of the packaged object within the first and second apertures, whereby the insert surrounds at least a portion of the packaged object.

7. The insert of claim 1 wherein at least one of the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprises an air-cellular cushioning material.

8. The insert of claim 1 wherein the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprise an air-cellular cushioning material.

9. The insert of claim 1 wherein the air cellular cushioning material comprises a plurality of air cells and the air cells of adjacent sheets comprising air cellular material are in offset arrangement.

10. The insert of claim 1 wherein the air cellular cushioning material comprises a plurality of air cells having diameter of from about 0.25 inches to about 1 inch.

11. The insert of claim 1 wherein at least one of the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprises a cellular foam material.

12. The insert of claim 1 wherein the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprise a cellular foam material.

13. The insert of claim 1 wherein at least one of the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprises crumpled paper material.

14. The insert of claim 1 wherein the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprise crumpled paper material.

15. A method of making a package cushioning insert useful for cushioning an object comprising the following steps:

selecting the dimensions of a top sheet, a bottom sheet, and a plurality of interior sheets based on the shape of the object;

cutting the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets to the selected dimensions;

placing the top sheet, the bottom sheet, and the plurality of interior sheets in stacked arrangement with the plurality of interior sheets between the top and bottom sheets; and

attaching the top sheet to a first sheet of the plurality of interior sheets;

attaching the bottom sheet to a second sheet of the plurality of interior sheets; and

attaching each of the plurality of interior sheets to at least one other sheet of the plurality of interior sheets, wherein the top sheet, bottom sheet, and plurality of interior sheets comprise one or more materials selected from air-cellular cushioning material, cellular foam material, and crumpled paper material.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the placing step occurs subsequent to the cutting step.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein each sheet is cut to its selected dimension before placing the sheet in stacked arrangement.

18. The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of digitally modeling the object before the selecting step.

19. The method of claim 15 wherein each attaching step comprises heat sealing.

20. The method of claim 15 wherein each attaching step comprises adhesively attaching.